

III. REMARKS

1. Claims 1-12 remain in the application. Claims 1, 9 and 12 have been amended.

2. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 5-9, 11, and 12 are patentable over the combination of Green (WO 98/10571) and Sudo et al. (US 5,999,827, "Sudo").

The combination of Green and Sudo fails to disclose or suggest placing a replacement cover in a detachable manner in connection with the housing, substantially parallel to the second part, and in place of the second part, as recited by claims 1 and 9.

Green discloses a keypad adaptor which can be mounted on a conventional keypad of a phone. The adaptor includes keys which are preferably larger and more spaced out than the keys of the conventional keypad, making the keys of the keypad adaptor easier to use by e.g. impaired persons. Green does not disclose changing the function of the keys of the conventional keypad. The keys still retain their original functions after the adapter is placed over the original keypad. More significantly, Green fails to disclose removing the upper part of the cover of the phone and replacing it with the keypad adaptor. Thus, Green fails to disclose placing a replacement cover in a detachable manner in place of the second part, as recited by claims 1 and 9.

Sudo et al. discloses a communication terminal apparatus and control method thereof. The terminal comprises normal keypad and some soft keys. The operation of the soft keys can be changed according to the current state. The keypad also has keys with multiple operations which is known as such. For example, the

numeric keys can be used to input numbers, letters and provide a selection of display items. However, like Green, Sudo fails to disclose removing the upper part of the cover of the phone and replacing it with the keypad adaptor. There is nothing in Sudo related to placing a replacement cover in a detachable manner in place of the second part, as recited by claims 1 and 9.

At least for these reasons, Applicants submit that the combination of Green and Sudo fails to disclose all the features of independent claims 1 and 9, and dependent claims 5-8, 11 and 12. Therefore, claims 1 and 9, and dependent claims 5-8, 11 and 12 are patentable over the combination of Green and Sudo.

3. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-4, and 10 are patentable over the combination of Green and Sudo, further in view of Fuhrmann et al. (WO 97/32423, "Fuhrmann").

Claims 2-4 and 10 depend from claims 1 or 9. The combination of Green, Sudo and Fuhrmann fails to disclose or suggest removing the upper part of the cover of the phone and replacing it with the keypad adaptor. Thus, the combination of Green, Sudo and Fuhrmann fails to disclose or suggest placing a replacement cover in a detachable manner in place of the second part, as recited by claims 1 and 9.

At least for these reasons, claims 2-4, and 10 are patentable over the combination of Green, Sudo and Fuhrmann.

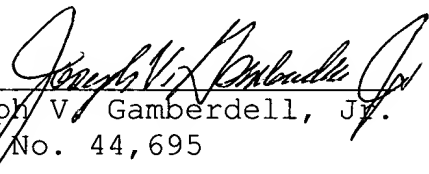
For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should

any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

A check in the amount of \$450.00 is enclosed for a two (2) month extension of time.

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Respectfully submitted,


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5 October 2005
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